



May 2012



Jodi Ross,
Town
Manager

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Apple Blossom Parade
Saturday, May 19, 10 AM

Free Family Fun
Spring BBQ
East Boston Camps
Sunday, May 20, 12-4 PM

"To Stay or not to Stay"
Real estate program for
Seniors
Tuesday, May 22
See Page 8.

Memorial Day
Ceremonies
Sunday, May 27
See Page 6.

Strategic Planning
Retreat at Kimball Farm
June 20, 5:30-8:30 PM

Watch Meetings Online

westford
CAT

www.westfordcat.org

Dear Westford Residents,

Congratulations to all local officials who were elected in our May 1st town election. The results may be found at this link: [2012 Town Election Results](#).

Many thanks are extended to members of Cub Scout Pack 102, who were organized by Heidi Hatke, and supervised by leaders Ralph Casale and Troy Evangelista, for planting two new elm trees and numerous bulbs in our Pine Grove Cemetery.

On April 25th, Governor Patrick joined many other state and local officials, members of the business community, and our residents to "flip the switch" on Cathartes Private Investments new 22-acre solar farm which is located at 540 Groton Road. According to our Governor, this farm contains 14,000 solar panels, which encompasses more solar panels than exist in the entire state of Massachusetts. Many local businesses and institutions are benefiting from this renewable energy source.



Volunteers are continuing the "Litter League Green Team". These residents are helping to beautify our town by picking up litter along our roadsides. See page seven of this newsletter to learn how you and/or your groups may participate.

Our town will be holding the 2nd annual Strategic Planning Retreat on June 20th from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Kimball Farm. Information regarding the topics to be discussed will be posted soon at this link: [Strategic Planning Retreat](#).

(Continued on next page)

The 43rd Annual Apple Blossom Festival will be held May 16th through May 20th, with the parade on Saturday, May 19th at 10:00 a.m. from Main Street at Graniteville Road to the Abbot School.

East Boston Camps is holding its annual Free Family Fun Spring BBQ on Sunday, May 20th 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. where you may enjoy free food and drinks, hayrides, live music and games, a 50/50 raffle, nature walks and swimming.

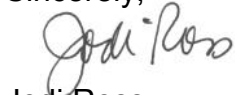
Our town is gearing up for our Memorial Day events on Sunday, May 27th. Town events for this day will begin at 9:00 a.m. at Forge Pond, Lake Mattawanakee, (Pond Street/ Freedom Park), 9:15 a.m. Forge Village Honor Roll (West Prescott Street), 9:45 a.m. Graniteville Monument (North Main Street), Parents Market. Start, 10:30 a.m. Nabnasset Lake – (Byrne Ave. Dam) Oak Hill Road/Jo-Jo Lane. Then on our Town Common - Honor Roll Readings at 10:45 AM, with the parade starting at the Roudenbush Community Center at noon, then continuing to the Town Common Memorial Day Ceremonial Service, approximately 12:20 PM. A guide to events can be found at www.westfordma.gov/veterans.

Westford Academy students continue to volunteer in our town, and have been beautifying our municipal building properties by spreading mulch, painting, and completing other general landscaping, and assisting in our permitting office.

I am pleased to announce that Steve Cronin was promoted from the position of Water Treatment Manager to Water Superintendent. Congratulations to Steve on his new position.

Please check our town's website for committee openings. A sample of current openings includes openings on the Economic Development Committee, Agricultural Commission, Communications Advisory Committee, Bylaw Review Committee, Energy Committee, Community Preservation Committee, and Cultural Council.

Sincerely,



Jodi Ross



*Early morning Westford Academy Crew practice on Forge Pond.
Photo by Karen Keenan McCann.*

Building Department News

May is Building Safety Month

On the Town of Westford Building Department website is a power point presentation that has been developed by the Massachusetts Federation of Building Officials (MFBO). The presentation gives an overview of the MFBO and has some great suggestions as to keeping safe and helping the environment. Please take a few minutes to view the presentation.



To access the presentation: www.westfordma.gov/building

POOLS

The warm weather is fast approaching; applications for pools are starting to appear.

Please remember that pools are a safety concern and require a building permit to be installed (other permits such as electrical and or gas may also be required). There are very specific fencing requirements that are needed and a properly permitted pool will be inspected for both structural stability and safety.

BUILDING CODE

The building code has changed to help keep up with the national code models through the International Code Council (ICC). At one time the building code was one very large book. Now with the adoption of the 8th edition of the building code there are 3 books just for building code construction, 1 book for energy code, and 1 book for the sheet metal / mechanical code. Each of these stand alone books has amendments that the state has adopted and included to be part of each of these codes.

ENERGY CODE

The legislature requires that the most recent version of the energy code, called International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), be adopted within one year of the code taking effect nationally. The IECC is updated every three years, 2012 being one of the update years. A new and more stringent energy code will start to take effect soon, with a concurrency period to be able to use either the current 2009 energy code or the 2012 energy code. Once the State agrees on the time frames I will start to address the changes that will take effect and when.



Water Department News

We are pleased to announce that Stephen Cronin was named Water Superintendent starting April 27th after serving briefly in this position on an interim basis. Steve has been with the Water Department for 2 years as Water Treatment Manager, and becomes the 6th Water Superintendent for the Westford Water Department.

Steve has over 10 years of experience in the water industry including several years as Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator for the Town of Hanover.



*Stephen Cronin, Water
Department Superintendent*

Graniteville Water Main Improvements Project

The Westford Water Department will begin construction of the water main replacement project in the Graniteville section of Westford on Monday, May 14. The water mains in this area of the water system have been identified in the Water Department's Master Plan to be replaced in order to improve water system reliability and fire protection. The project will include replacing the water main on Graniteville Road from Cold Spring Road to Bridge Street, and on River Street from Broadway to North Main Street. A new water main will also be installed on Bridge Street that will connect two dead ends on either side of the brook crossing. The final part of the project will be to replace water services on West Street and Beacon Street.

The initial phase of the project will include installing the new water main, replacing water services, and temporary paving of the trenches. All of this work is expected to be completed by early August. Construction work hours are usually 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Roads may be blocked to traffic during work hours, and it is a good idea to seek alternate routes around this area. However, residents will be allowed access to their homes. No construction activities are scheduled for weekends or major holidays.

All excavated trenches will be repaved this year, and all lawn and sidewalk areas disturbed will be repaired. Some of the streets will receive a curb-to-curb overlay which will most likely be completed in spring 2013.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation during this project. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact either Stephen Cronin at the Water Department (978) 692-5529, or the Water Department's engineer Tom Mahanna at Stantec (978) 577-1411.



Visit the Water Department website at www.westfordma.gov/water for project updates.

Westford Academy Community Service Team celebrated its 3rd Annual “It’s Only Green if You Keep it Clean” Project Day on Saturday, April 28th. At least thirty-six WA students and their advisors Cory Roman and Libby Porter were joined by community members Peter Mahler and his wife Kate, Bill Turner of the Conservation Commission, Dana Porter and George Fletcher, the proud supervisor and grand-daddy of the East Boston Camps for a big day of work!



Several projects were successfully completed to include the refurbishing of the Day Beach, reinforcing run-off bars to prevent erosion, construction of a fire pit, and painting the exteriors of five cabins! The weather was cool but sunny, along with the positive attitudes of our hardworking WA Community Service Team members.

We are all very proud of our work! After three years of dedication, along with that of many Westford community members, the East Boston Camps are looking inviting for another wonderful summer of growth and fun of those who partake it is beauty and resources!

Thank you to the Friends of East Boston Camps, the Conservation Commission, the Town of Westford and George Fletcher for your unending support of our wonderful and productive school-community partnership with Westford Academy!

Thank you to those listed below and those who gave of your energies but not listed here!

Pat Long
Olivia Peterson
Jared Peterson
Evan Bosic
Bendan Frankfort
Edward Wang
John Gallucci
Cathryn Sennott
Jenna Benavenga
Jessica Sullivan

Evan Beatty
Greg Winn
Meghan Kibblehouse
Dustin Torgersen
Alex Cheng
Ian Cotter
Mike Burns
Joey Sullivan
Nate Furness
Corrina Galli

Melanie Widmann
Luke Pirog
Casey O'Connor
Moonrose Cheng
Ayva Tedstone
Caroline Rosinski
Liz McAlesse
Charlotte Suszynski
Hannah Peternell
Adam Peternell

Doug Boyle
Alex Lee
Lindsay Bedard
Andy Gabrielson
Yvonne Quach
Stephanie Latlamme
Ryan Chen

Marcela Galli ,
Parent Volunteer

Veterans News



Memorial Day 2012 - Town wide celebration of Memorial Day will be held on Sunday, May 27th. Ceremonies will be conducted at Freedom Park @ 9 AM, Forge Village monument @ 9:15 AM, Graniteville monument on North Main St @ 9:45 and then at Nab Lake, Byrne Ave. dam at 10:30. On the Town Common, the reading of the Honor Rolls will begin at 10:45 AM. Culminating the ceremonies will be a parade starting at noon from the Roudenbush Community Center to the Town Common where various tributes will be

given. Veterans who would like to participate should meet at the Cameron Senior Center at 8 AM on Sunday. All are encouraged to commemorate our US servicemen and service-women who have died in defense of our country on this holiday weekend. Join us if you can. A guide to events may be found on the Westford Veterans Services website:

www.westfordma.gov/veterans

US flags to be placed on veterans graves the week of May 21st. Our local American Legion members will be putting the US flags up the week prior to Memorial Day. We will do our best to make sure that every veteran's grave is properly marked. Sometimes a flag will be misplaced or unintentional removed, please let the Veterans Service Officer know if a flag is missing, we will try and put one in place prior to Memorial Day. The flat bronze markers are provided by the VA at no cost, more information on obtaining them can be found at http://www.cem.va.gov/hm_hm.asp or by calling/emailing the Veterans Services department. (978) 392-1170 or email: veterans@westfordma.gov

Our website: www.westfordma.gov/veterans

Our blog: www.westfordma.gov/veterans/blog

Follow us on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/WestfordMAVets

We are on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/WestfordDVS



Litter League Green Team

Westford's Litter League Green Team Back for Year Two

Last spring, resident Carmen Chiungos took litter clean up into her own hands. Every single Saturday morning from April to October, Carmen and friends went out for one hour and picked up trash along Westford's roadways. The group was named the Litter League Green Team. This year, the Highway Department is providing the Green Team with kits and supplies needed to be even more successful. These kits contain enough equipment and supplies for eight volunteers, and maybe be borrowed from the Highway Department.

Litter League Kits include:

- Yellow bags for trash, clear bags for recyclables
- Eight safety vests
- Glo-pink flag tape to mark tires and other objects too heavy for volunteers to lift
- Eight metal grabbers for picking up the trash



The Highway Department will collect the full bags and flagged items left at the roadside by the Litter League Teams. So get your neighborhood together, or your child's scout troop or your club members, and pick some dates to borrow the equipment.

To sign up to borrow the kits, or to see what groups have scheduled the kits, go to the Highway Department website at www.westfordma.gov/highway and look for the [Litter League Link](#).

Result? A litter free Westford.



Council on Aging News

“To Stay or not to Stay?”

Tuesday, May 22nd at 8:30 AM at Cameron for a continental breakfast and to hear Coldwell Banker Real Estate and the Council on Aging provide information concerning our homes and answer your questions.

- How do you know when it is time to leave?
- What are the housing options available for seniors and what is the price range?
- What are the in home services available if you stay?
- What are the first basic steps involved in selling?

Please register at 978 692-5523 and be eligible for door prizes.

Expanded Food Pantry Hours

Westford Community Food Pantry located at the Cameron Senior Center will be expanding their hours on June 1st. The Food Pantry is open to all residents in need of food and has non-perishable items. The new hours are the first and third Monday of each month June 4th and 18th from 1 – 3:30 PM, the first and third Wed. June 6 and 20 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM, first and third Thurs. June 7 and 21 8:30 – 11:30 and 6:30 – 8 PM along with the third first and third Fri. June 1 and 15 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM. Donations of canned goods and checks made payable to “Friends of Cameron” indicate food pantry on memo line is gratefully appreciated.

Come up and See Us Sometime

W.C. Fields and Mae West on Friday, June 8th at 1 PM. See the characters come to life and stay for a root beer float. This program is supported by a grant from the Westford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency. Register at 978 692-5523.

“Some weasel took the cork out of my lunch.” - W.C. Fields

“When I'm good I'm very, very good, but when I'm bad, I'm better.” - Mae West



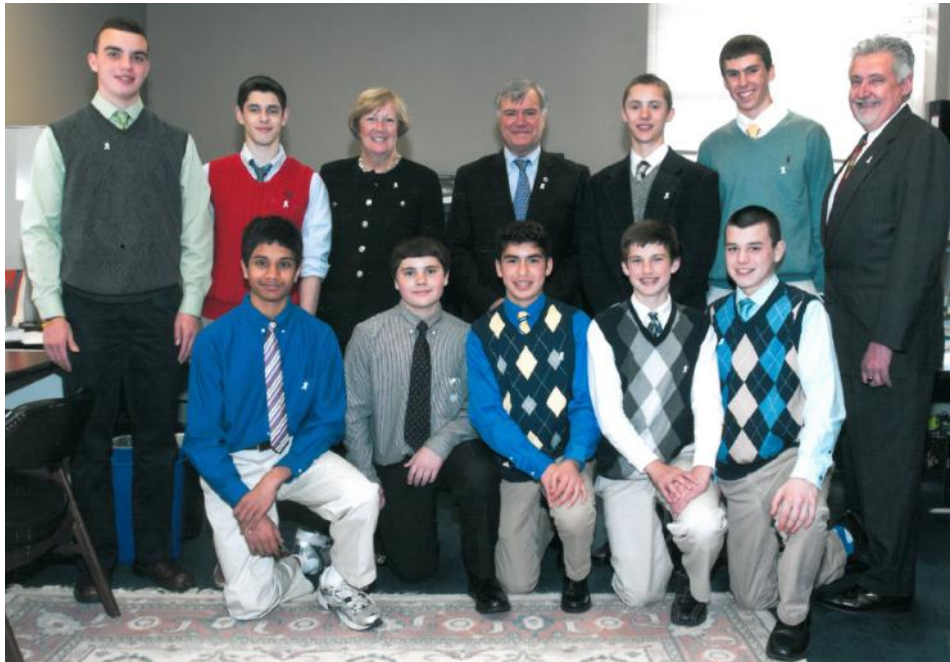
Men's breakfast at Cameron 8 AM on Tuesday, June 12th. Last one before the summer break so please register at 978 692-5523.

Salad Bar at Cameron each Thursday and Friday 11:30 – 12:15 is available, please join us.

The Cameron Closet located at 20 Pleasant St. is open Monday thru Friday 9 AM – 3 PM and open to the general public. We feature clothing and knick-knacks at low prices. We are in need of summer clothing in excellent condition in all sizes.

Westford Coalition for Non-Violence

A group of 8th Grade Boys from the Blanchard & Stonybrook Middle Schools in Westford visited the State House on April 12th as guests of the White Ribbon Day co-chairpersons, Commissioner Angelo McClain of the Department of Children and Families and Paulo Pinto, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers. These honorable young men took a pro-active step to pledge to be part of the solution to end violence against women in Massachusetts. White Ribbon Day is a state wide prevention initiative sponsored by Jane Doe Inc., the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence.



Top Row (left to right): Jacob Hill, Brian Murray, Senator Eileen Donoghue, Senator Kenneth Donnelly, Thomas Sherriff, Scott Callahan, Paul Starratt. Bottom Row (left to right): Alok Ganguly, Matthew Lavalleet, Neema Saberi, Nicholas Fiorillo, Nicholas Diamond

The students were scheduled to attend the White Ribbon Day State House ceremony on March 1st, but school was canceled because of the late season snow storm. These committed young people were so disappointed about the missed opportunity, that they pushed for another trip to Boston to take the pledge. Commissioner McClain and Director Pinto were so impressed with the determination of the Westford youth, that they arranged for a special ceremony. Senator Eileen Donoghue hosted the event in her office with support from Senator Ken Donnelly and Representative Jim Arciero. Senator Donoghue commended the young people for taking a stand in the struggle to end violence against woman and encouraged the students to be part of the solution. Commissioner McClain and Director Pinto praised the young men for their courage to be leaders and challenged them to bring the message back to their schools that violence against woman is not acceptable.

Michele Long and Paul Starratt of the Westford Coalition for Non Violence worked with Vice Principal Tim Hislop and Counselor Scott Nilsen to organize the event. Coach Morgan and teachers Kevin St. Cyr and James Merkle also joined Coalition Chair Sandy Collins in supporting the students by attending the memorable event.

For more information about the White Ribbon Day Campaign and to learn how you can be part of the solution in ending violence against woman, please visit the Jane Doe website at www.janedoe.org or the Westford Coalition website at www.westfordma.gov/wcnv